

REPORT ON NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 17th November 1883.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.	
BENGALI.					
Fortnightly.					
1	"Sansodhini"	Chittagong ...	653	7th November 1883.	
2	"Purva Pratidhwani"	Ditto ...	474		
3	"Tripurá Vártávaha"	Comillah ...	.....	
4	"Prem Pracháriní"	Nawabgunge, Barrack-pore.	.....	
Weekly.					
5	"Alok"	Calcutta ...	.....	12th	ditto.
6	"Ananda Bazar Patriká"	Ditto ...	700		
7	"Arya Darpan"	Ditto ...	150		
8	"Bangabási"	Ditto ...	8,500		
9	"Bártábaha"	Pubna ...	.....	10th	ditto.
10	"Bhárat Bandhu"	Calcutta ...	.....	13th	ditto.
11	"Bhárat Hitaishí"	Burrisal ...	450		
12	"Bhárat Mihir"	Mymensingh ...	713		
13	"Bardwán Sanjivani"	Burdwan ...	282		
14	"Cháruvártá"	Sherepore, Mymensingh	529	12th	ditto.
15	"Dacca Prakash"	Dacca ...	526	11th	ditto.
16	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly ...	745	3rd	ditto.
17	"Grámvártá Prakashiká"	Comercolly ...	267		



No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI—concluded.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
18	"Halisahar Prakāshikā"	Calcutta ... ..	.....	3rd & 10th November 1883.
19	"Hindu Ranjikā"	Beauleah, Rajshahye... ..	200	
20	"Jātiya Suhrid"	Calcutta	700	
21	"Medini"	Midnapore ... ..	.....	8th ditto.
22	"Murshidābād Patrikā"	Berhampore	418	
23	"Murshidābād Pratinidhi"	Ditto ... ..	.....
24	"Navavibhākar"	Calcutta	850	12th ditto.
25	"Paridarshak"	Sylhet	421	
26	"Prajā Bandhu"	Chandernagore	287	13th ditto.
27	"Pratikār"	Berhampore	275	9th ditto.
28	"Rajshahye Samvād"	Beauleah ... ..	.....
29	"Rungpore Dik Prakāsh"	Kakiniā, Rungpore	220	
30	"Sādharanī"	Chinsurah	500	11th ditto.
31	"Sahachar"	Calcutta	500	7th ditto.
32	"Samaya"	Ditto ... ..	.....	12th ditto.
33	"Sanjivani"	Ditto ... ..	.....	10th ditto.
34	"Sāraswat Patra"	Dacca ... ..	.....
35	"Shakti"	Calcutta ... ..	.....	8th ditto.
36	"Som Prakāsh"	Changripottā, 24-Perghs. ... ..	.....	12th ditto.
37	"Sulabha Samāchār"	Calcutta	3,000	10th ditto.
38	"Surabhi"	Deoghur ... ..	.....	5th ditto.
39	"Udbodhan"	Calcutta ... ..	.....	2nd ditto.
<i>Daily.</i>				
40	"Dainik Vārtā"	Hoogli ... ..	.....	1st to 6th ditto.
41	"Samvad Prabhākar"	Calcutta	250	7th to 13th ditto.
42	"Samvād Pūrnachandrodaya"	Ditto	300	12th to 15th ditto.
43	"Samachār Chandrikā"	Ditto	625	6th, 7th, 12th & 13th ditto.
44	"Banga Vidyā Prakāshikā"	Ditto	500	
45	"Prabhāti"	Ditto	500	2nd to 14th ditto.
ENGLISH AND URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
46	"Urdu Guide"	Calcutta	365	10th ditto.
HINDI.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
47	"Behar Bandhu"	Bankipore ... ..	.....	8th ditto.
48	"Bhārat Mitra"	Calcutta	1,500	8th ditto.
49	"Sār Sudhānidhi"	Ditto	500	5th ditto.
50	"Uchit Baktā"	Ditto ... ..	.....	10th ditto.
PERSIAN.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
51	"Jām-Jahān-numā"	Calcutta	250	9th ditto.
URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
52	"Akhbar-i-darusaltanat"	Calcutta ... ..	.....
53	"Amir-ul-Akbar"	Ditto ... ..	.....	5th ditto.
ASSAMESE.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
54	"Assam Vilāsinī"	Sibsagar ... ..	.....
URIYA.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
55	"Utkal Dīpikā"	Cuttack	188	3rd ditto.
56	"Utkal Darpan"	Balasore	200	
57	"Balasore Samvad Vāhika"	Ditto	92	1st ditto.
58	"Purusottam Patrikā"	Pooree	330	5th ditto.
HINDI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
59	"Kshatriya Patrikā"	Patna	400	

POLITICAL.

After giving some extracts from the writings of two Russian Generals on the subject of India, the *Navavibhakar*, of the 12th November, makes the following observations :—

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
Nov. 12th, 1883.

Those who wish to preach the superiority of Englishmen by causelessly wounding the feelings of the people of this country, those who are trying to make the people of this country lose their respect for Englishmen by unnecessarily exciting race antipathy, should learn a lesson from the words of these two Russian Generals. Though the Englishman may have a hundred defects, yet the people of India are attached to him. Though the people of India point out the defects of the British Administration, yet at heart they desire the permanence of British rule. Let Russian officers know this. Let English officers also understand that they should so act that by pointing out the defects of English rule, the Russians may not prove the superiority of Russian rule. It is the paramount duty of the English nation, and the English Government, so to act that, on comparing Russian rule in Central Asia, and English rule in Southern Asia, the superiority of English rule may be established. The loving hearts of Her Majesty's Indian subjects constitute her main strength. Compared with it 60,000 British bayonets are lighter and less efficient than 60,000 blades of grass.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.

2. The *Prabhāti*, of the 2nd November, remarks that the Ilbert Bill has turned the heads of Europeans, both official and non-official. As an example the Editor

PRABHATI,
Nov. 2nd, 1883

The Madaripur case.

gives an account of the Madaripur case. Mr. Sharp was indeed rebuked by Mr. Davis. But the wound of his heart was healed by the transfer and degradation of Babu Kalinath Bose. Such strange things will not be rare under the administration of Mr. Thompson.

3. The same paper remarks that people formed a very favourable

PRABHATI.

Mr. Thompson and Sir Ashley Eden.

opinion of Mr. Thompson from the fact that he regularly attended Church, and was known to be a good Christian; so they hailed his accession to the throne of Bengal after their bitter experience of Sir Ashley Eden. But now experience teaches them what sort of Lieutenant-Governor they have got. The difference between Mr. Thompson and Sir Ashley Eden is illustrated by the incident regarding the non-invitation of Mr. B. De to an official dinner at Hooghly.

4. The *Udbodhan*, of the 2nd November, gives an account of the entertainment given by the Maharajah of Hutwa to the local European community, and

UDBODHAN,
Nov. 2nd, 1883.

The Ilbert Bill.

remarks that, on account of the liberal-heartedness of Lord Ripon, the spirit of defiance has been roused in the European trading community. The writer asks the big folk of his country why they allow these traders to mix with them. It only brings them discredit.

5. The *Dainik Barta*, of the 3rd November, remarks that the Commissioner of Orissa too has caught the taint of the prevailing opinion amongst Anglo-

DAINIK BARTA,
Nov. 3rd, 1883.

The Administration Report of the Orissa Division.

Indians. He holds that Bengali newspapers are prejudiced, are full of unfounded and worthless stories, and never speak the truth. This is a very valuable observation, and Bengali newspapers will do well to remember it. Who will believe those that are liars and take a delight in circulating scandals even against such a good man as the present Viceroy of India, if they call in question the veracity of Bengali newspapers? It is no wonder that those who are brought up in the school of Furrell and Clarke should vilify the native press.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA,
Nov. 3rd, 1883.

6. The *Grámvártá Prakáshiká*, of the 3rd November, says that notices have been served by the Criminal Court of Kushtea upon pancháyats on the ground that they have not paid the salaries of the village watchmen, and that a demand of eight annas has been made as the fee of the service of these notices. In some instances these have been served on pancháyats who have paid the watchmen in full. The pancháyats are unpaid servants of the State. Many think they oppress the ryots. If they are treated as they are treated in Kushtea, their high-handedness will increase. The authorities should consider this matter with particular care.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.

7. The same paper complains that the culvert at Tarapur, on the road leading from Kumarkhali to Kushtea, has given way. It has caused very great inconvenience to the public. But the authorities are very slow to take the work of repairs in hand. The culvert at Baidangi has long since been destroyed, and no attempt has yet been made to have it rebuilt.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.

8. The same paper complains that while the rulers are busy with the Ilbert Bill, the Rent Bill, and similar measures, they pay no attention to the three crying wants of the people in the mofussil. First, the want of good sanitary arrangements for the destruction of malaria; second, the want of food, the price of which is rising rapidly; third, the want of water, the insufficient rainfall having dried up the tanks.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.

9. The same paper says that the Anglo-Indian community always look down upon the native population, but up to the time of the present agitation they took care to conceal their feelings. The agitation has brought these feelings to light. The people would not set much store by the ill-feeling of the non-official community, but the official world also is against them. Mr. Thompson is the leader of Anglo-Indians, and his subordinates are trying their best to outdo him. British rule in India has become despotic. If the authorities had foresight enough to see who would be the ultimate losers, they would never have been so despotic. After this preface, the writer gives a brief summary of the Madaripur case, and remarks in conclusion that Mr. Sharp may have gained the good will of the Anglo-Indian Defence Association, and perhaps of Mr. Thompson, but the letter he has received from Mr. Davis, whom he wanted to give an undue advantage, is very cutting.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.

10. The same paper publishes the following suggestions made by the Nattore Ryots Association regarding the provisions of the Bengal Tenancy Bill:—

(1). The Bill has reference only to agricultural, horticultural, and pasture lands. It has nothing to do with any other kind of land. If a tenant erects a building at his own expense on any bastu land, custom gives him the right of transmitting it to his descendants. The existence of this right it is very difficult for the ryot to prove in court. The law should come in to give additional strength to the custom.

(2). The definition of under-ryots is such that it includes half the ryots of Bengal, but the law makes no provision for their rights and interests.

(3). It should be provided that the Certificate Act shall not apply to the operations of the Court of Wards, for the above Act has become an instrument of obtaining possession of land of which possession is lost. The ryot is incapable of proving his rights under that Act. The measure is doing great harm to the ryot.

(4). The word taluqdar should be put in along with the word zemindar in the provisions against the custom of converting ryoti lands into khamar, as

in Bengal Proper it is not the zemindar so much as the taluqdar who wants to have the ryoti land converted into khamar.

(5). The ryots who hold land at fixed rents from the time of the permanent settlement are included in the class of taluqdars. Those that hold entire villages by this right may be well called taluqdars. But if the owners of plots of land in a village are made taluqdars, they would find it difficult to realize their rents from their under-ryots as taluqdars. These under-ryots will soon obtain occupancy rights.

(6). The provision that the ryot will lose his rights, if he fails to hold his land for one year, would be hard on the ryot. Such failure may be accidental, or it may result from other causes. Therefore provision should be made to the effect that if the ryot can prove accidental circumstances in Court he will not lose his holding.

(7). The Bill makes no provision for ryots who hold lands at fixed rents on the strength of a permanent lease.

11. The *Prabháti*, of the 3rd November, complains that the calling for of crop reports by the Government of Bengal is rather too late. It was long certainly known that the state of the crops was bad. Had the Lieutenant-Governor been anxious to ascertain the state of the crops during his tour as he was anxious for dinners, festivities, addresses, and so on, he could have taken early steps to provide for the irrigation of the land.

PRABHATI,
Nov. 3rd, 1883.

12. The same paper remarks that there is no hope that the Maharájáh of Cooch Behar will exercise the functions of royalty as his forefathers did. The arrangement made by the Government shows that the Maharájáh will be allowed to while away his time just as he did in his minority, and that instead of Mr. Dalton, Colonel Gordon, the son-in-law of Sir Richard Garth, will be the ruler of Cooch Behar. Babu Kalikadas, too, will be its permanent Dewan. Babu Kalikadas has a right to be the Dewan; but why should the Government force Colonel Gordon upon the administration and make it costly? The Maharájáhs of old never had European co-adjutors in the administration. Why then should the present Maharájáh require Europeans to assist him in the work of the administration?

PRABHATI.

13. The *Halishahar Prakashiká*, of the 3rd November, remarks that if any native had used the sort of seditious language so often uttered by Anglo-Indians during the present agitation, he would certainly have been transported to a remote island or sent to the gallows. Their spirit of defiance has assumed gigantic proportions, only because the Lieutenant-Governor is opposed to the Ilbert Bill.

HALISHAHAR
PRAKASHIKA,
Nov. 3rd, 1883.

14. The same paper remarks that the Bengal Tenancy Bill will not at all interfere with the just rights of the zemindars, i.e., the realization of the rent to which they are entitled. Why then do they make all this noise? People should be satisfied with their just rights. They should not gird up their loins to take what does not belong to them. Every one should confine himself within the limits of his just rights. It is a matter of great regret that the zemindars always grudge any improvement in the condition of the ryot.

HALISHAHAR
PRAKASHIKA.

15. The same paper approves the proposal to accord a hearty reception to the Viceroy, who is sincerely desirous of doing good to the people of India, and is suffering all sorts of indignities at the hands of Anglo-Indians.

HALISHAHAR
PRAKASHIKA.

16. The *Dainik Bártá*, of the 5th November, complains that the police never cares to be on good terms with the inhabitants of the locality. The reason is that half educated Europeans are placed at the head

DAINIK BARTA,
Nov. 5th, 1883.

of the police in every district. If educated men be gradually introduced into the department, its moral tone will be elevated. If educated men become Inspectors and if the superior officers do not treat them with contumely, the purity of this important department will be easily secured.

SURABHI,
Nov. 5th, 1883.

17. The *Surabhi*, of the 5th November, remarks that Mr. Thompson has shown the narrowness of his mind by not inviting Mr. B. De to a dinner on the *Rhotas* to which all the officials of the Hooghly district were invited.

SURABHI.

18. The same paper says that Mr. Thompson has appointed a commission, with Mr. Westmacott as its President, to draw up a scheme for the introduction of Self-

Self-Government in Bengal.

Government into Bengal. In other provinces of the Empire Self-Government has been introduced, but in Bengal, the most advanced of the provinces, the scheme is yet immature. The reason is the ruler of Bengal is opposed to Self-Government, and cannot tolerate that Bengalis should obtain any rights and privileges. He has at last sought the protection of Mr. Westmacott, who is a hater of natives. The slightest show of independent spirit in a native will make him blind with rage. The writer says that unless there was some sinister motive there was no necessity of appointing such a commission as this.

SURABHI.

19. The same paper appeals to his countrymen not to be afraid of showing their displeasure with Mr. Thompson, who is opposed to the Ilbert Bill and the introduction of Self-Government into Bengal. A certain number of native gentlemen always go to Sealdah to receive the Lieutenant-Governor when he returns from Darjeeling or other places. The writer asks them not to go to receive Mr. Thompson this time on the 10th November. There is no need of showing respect to one whom the heart dislikes.

SURABHI.

20. The same paper remarks that Anglo-Indians are showing every mark of respect to Mr. Thompson because he agrees with them in the matter of the Ilbert Bill, &c., and of disrespect to Lord Ripon because he disagrees with them. Lord Ripon holds the opinion we hold with regard to the government of this country, and Mr. Thompson holds the opinion the narrow-minded Anglo-Indians hold. Anglo-Indians receive Mr. Thompson with enthusiasm. Why should we not receive Lord Ripon with equal enthusiasm? The writer, therefore, appeals to the inhabitants of Calcutta to show their love and respect to Lord Ripon by turning out to a man to accord him a hearty reception. All respectable native gentlemen should go to Howrah to welcome Lord Ripon, should salute him as soon as he alights, and should each of them present him with garlands of flowers.

SAR SUDHANIDHI,
Nov. 5th, 1883.

21. The *Sár Sudhánidhi*, of the 5th November, remarks, in reference to the apprehended scarcity, that some explanation of the saying that famines occur owing to the sins of the rulers is to be found in the present case, in the character of Mr. Thompson's administration of Bengal. The writer suggests the desirability of stopping all exportation of food-grains from the country.

Famine apprehended.

PRABHATI,
Nov. 6th, 1883.

22. The *Prabhāti*, of the 6th November, complains that zemindars have violated one of the conditions of the Permanent Settlement, viz. that relating to the improvement of land. In this the Government has shown them a very bad example. The attention of the Lieutenant-Governor has been directed to the introduction of an improved system of agriculture into the khas mehals, and a model farm has been established in the estate of Nasriganj in Shahabad. But the writer says that the farm should be placed under the charge of one of the passed students of the Cirencester College and not under a civilian. Babu Ambica Charan has returned from Cirencester; and may, with advantage, be employed in this work.

23. The *Sahachar*, of the 7th November, gives an account of the Madaripur case, and remarks that, as any Magistrate can issue summonses against

TMadaripur case.

Europeans, Babu Kalinath did nothing illegal in having summoned Mr. Davis before him. Mr. Sharp did an illegal act by transferring the case to his own file without any application from Mr. Davis. But the long and short of the thing is, that Mr. Sharp has lost his senses in the agitation on the Ilbert Bill. The Lieutenant-Governor, too, is not all right. Had His Honor been impartial he would certainly have given a good reprimand to Mr. Sharp. But instead of that Babu Kalinath has been transferred as if he was in fault. It is a matter of gratification, however, that Mr. Davis did not approve of the illegal proceedings of Mr. Sharp.

SACHAR.
Nov. 7th, 1883.

24. The same paper says that the *Bengali* newspaper wrote strongly against the promotion of Babu Ambica Charan Basu, the second assistant of the

Education Department.

office of the Director of Public Instruction. But the Babu should be appointed Assistant Inspector of Schools, Burdwan Division, inasmuch as he is, by his knowledge of the English language, and his previous training as Deputy Inspector of Schools, eminently qualified to fill that office.

SACHAR.

25. The *Samvād Prabhākar*, of the 7th November, says that modifications in the Bengal Tenancy Bill are absolutely necessary. Many of the officers in Bengal

The Bengal Tenancy Bill.

have given their opinion in favour of modifying the Bill. The Lieutenant-Governor, too, is in favour of certain modifications. The writer is of opinion that instead of dropping the Bill altogether, measures should be adopted by which the provisions of the Permanent Settlement may be respected; and at the same time a settlement may be arrived at between the zemindars and ryots. It is not advisable to sacrifice the just rights of any party.

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR.
Nov. 7th, 1883.

26. The *Sansadhinī*, of the 7th November, says that in reply to the letter which Rājāh Haris Chandra sent to Government, complaining against the conduct

Rājāh Haris Chandra.

of the Deputy Commissioner, that officer has advised Government to dethrone the Rājāh. If the Rājāh is not able to govern his kingdom, Government can take steps to conduct its affairs. But the Deputy Commissioner should not be allowed to go scot-free.

SANSODHINI.
Nov. 7th, 1883.

27. The same paper notices the irregularity in the conduct of Mr. McGuire, the Joint-Magistrate of Chit-

Mr. McGuire.

tagong, in a criminal case before him, in which he himself was both witness and judge. A Brahmin boy of eleven years of age was letting off fireworks. The Joint-Magistrate prohibited him lest his horse should shy. The boy did not mind him. The officer informed the police about it. The police arrested two young men, three boys, and seven prostitutes. Mr. McGuire ordered 15 and 16 stripes to be inflicted respectively on two of the boys. They both appealed to the District Judge. Their appeals were granted. One of the boys did not get the punishment, but the other boy got it, because the order of the Judge in his case was received later. Mr. McGuire administered seven stripes with his own hands.

SANSODHINI.

28. The same paper expresses its disappointment with the present pious ruler of Bengal. It expected that such a good Christian as Mr. Thompson would

The Excise Report.

not encourage the liquor traffic. Government understands the evils of drunkenness, and does not like its increase; but still, for the sake of revenue, cannot withdraw from the trade. Government is making every endeavour to rescue the ryots from the hands of tyrannical zemindars, but what does it do to protect poor people from the evils of its own creation?

SANSODHINI.

MRDINI,
Nov. 8th, 1883.

29. The *Medini*, of the 8th November, notices with pleasure that, as recommended by itself, Government has stopped navigation in the Midnapur Canal to facilitate irrigation. The steamer is now allowed to proceed only up to Panshkura, and not up to Mohanpur as before. The writer renders his best thanks to Mr. Wilson, the Magistrate, and to Babu Kailash Chandra Ghosh, but complains that the canal is so constructed that it is not to be found in those parts of the district which are high, and therefore are in the greatest need of irrigation. He also draws the attention of Mr. Wilson to the state of the dighis (large tanks) which may, with proper care, be greatly utilized for purposes of irrigation. But they are now so full of silt that they are perfectly useless.

SHAKTI,
Nov. 8th, 1883.

30. The *Shakti*, of the 8th November, says that drunkenness has enormously increased in Bengal, and that unless something is done to check its progress the country will go to ruin. Still the Government will not desist from the liquor traffic. The Lieutenant-Governor has made a curious statement in his resolution that the increase of drunkenness is an index of the increased prosperity of the people. The writer holds a very different opinion. He says that the struggle for life has very greatly increased in Bengal. The ruin of the labouring and of the agricultural classes from want may one day be regarded as possible. The writer is quite unable to understand the relation between drunkenness and prosperity.

SHAKTI.

31. The same paper remarks that the police does every day, with the least possible hesitation, what Hastings would shudder to do even with the assistance of an Impey, and Lord Lytton would feel compunction in doing even with the advice of the Strachey brothers. If the police has any particular whim it has full power to satisfy it. The people in the mofussil dread them, and cannot positively say whether they are protectors or oppressors. The writer therefore entreats Government to increase the pay of police officers. The reformation of the Police Department is absolutely necessary. If Government does not pay any attention to the subject, much evil will result from it.

SHAKTI.

32. The same paper remarks that of the evils brought by the British Government upon this country, the Permanent Settlement is one of the worst. The writer quotes profusely from Mill's History of India and from the Political Economy of his son to prove that the peasant proprietorship is the best form of land-tenure, and best fitted for the improvement of land.

SHAKTI.

33. The same paper remarks that the reports of Government officers contain the statement that, though the number who drink has increased, the number of drunkards has not. If the Government believe in these reports, and intend to ruin the people, there is no help for it. The writer sees no good in the traffic of liquor except an increase of the revenue. Why does not the Lieutenant-Governor try to obtain his revenue from some other less objectionable source, so that it may result in the permanent good of the people?

ARYADARPAN,
Nov. 9th, 1883.

34. The Editor of the *Aryadarpan*, of the 9th November, advises his countrymen to keep quiet when Lord Ripon comes back to the Capital, and not to make any preparation for his reception. Whether they accord him a hearty reception or not that will not effect any change in his views. He is not a hunter of addresses and receptions. These little things make no impression on his large heart. But if they all go to receive him, Anglo-Indians will be incensed and will again raise an unpleasant outcry.

35. The *Pratikár*, of the 9th November, says that, though there is nothing directly against high education in the report of the Education Commission, no one can say that there will be no changes in the system according to which that education is now conducted. The writer is sorry to learn that the Commission has proposed the abolition of the Berhampur and the Midnapur Colleges, and the gradual abolition of the Krishnagar College. There will be no Government college at Berhampur, but Government will gladly grant aid if the people of the locality establish a college there. Government will not refuse aid to the Missionaries if they come forward to open a college.

PRATIKAR,
Nov. 9th 1883.

36. The *Bangabási*, of the 10th November, is anxious to know the prospects of the successful Bengali students of the Cirencester College. If they are allowed to become clerks or school-masters, every one will be sorry. Babu Ambica Charan returned to India four or five months ago; but no one yet knows how he is to be employed. Some say he is to become a statutory civilian. But why then did he take all the trouble of going to England? He could, by creating interest, have secured an appointment to the Native Civil Service even here. The writer exhorts Babu Ambica Charan not to accept such an appointment even if it were offered to him. He would, in that case, bring discredit upon his agricultural learning. The writer is sorry to notice that while Mr. Ozanni, though he passed with a smaller number of marks, has been appointed Director-General of the Agricultural Department, Bombay, Mr. Ambica Charan, who passed first in the list, still remains unemployed.

BANGABASI,
Nov. 10th, 1883

37. The same paper complains that the reports on native papers are never allowed to see the light. The translation may be right or it may be wrong, but no one knows what it is. The public has no access to it. The writer also complains that important Government publications are not given to the editors of vernacular papers. Everyone knows that under the administration of Lord Ripon the resolutions, reports, and other publications of Government should be, as a rule, given to the Vernacular Press. But it is mere talk. It will never come into practice.

BANGABASI.

38. The *Sanjivani*, of the 10th November, is glad to notice that, through the exertions of Mr. Wilson, female education is making great strides in Assam. In a very short time there have sprung up 90 girls' schools in that province, with 1,500 female students. This is a fair index of the good work that can be done if the higher officers of the department are bent on doing their duty. But the department of which Mr. Croft is the head, and of which Messrs. Garret and Bellett are the chief officers, cannot prosper. No one is capable of doing responsible duties unless he is dutiful and God-fearing. Therefore the writer is of opinion that those who think that Europeans must be employed even in the Education Department are either idiots or traitors to their country.

SANJIVANI.
Nov. 10th, 1883.

39. The same paper says: "Our Lord of the Belvedere went recently to Dinagepur. He did not speak with any other zemindar except the Maharájáh of the place. No native zemindar had a seat on the dais on which Mr. Thompson sat in the public durbar. But at the same time Europeans or Eurasians, who are managers of wards' estates, and therefore belong to the rank of the officers of the zemindars, had seats assigned them on the dais. It does not at all appear strange to any one that Mr. Thompson's conduct should have been of this nature. The only thing that appears strange is that the zemindars knowing the character of the man should have gone to

SANJIVANI.

receive him. They have been rightly served ; others perhaps will receive a lesson from their ill-treatment."

SANJIVANI,
Nov. 10th, 1883.

40. The same paper says that Mr. Thompson is opposed to whatever is calculated to improve the country. It is the

Mr. Thompson.

misfortune of Bengal that it has got such a Governor. He is opposed to the Ilbert Bill, to the Self-Government Bill, and to all other measures that are likely to do good to the country. The people of Dinagepur do not want Self-Government. So the Lieutenant-Governor remarks with satisfaction that those that deserve Self-Government do not want it, while those that do not deserve it want it. The long and short of these remarks is—Do not force Self-Government on those that do not want it, and those that want it do not deserve it, and therefore do not give it to them.

SANJIVANI.

41. The same paper remarks that zemindars are not satisfied with the Bengal Tenancy Bill. They have

The Rent Bill.

made friends with the Conservatives, who are opponents of every measure that is calculated to improve the position of the natives of India. This shows that zemindars have their interest only in their view and nothing else. The zemindars praise the Permanent Settlement, but decry the grant of occupancy right to the ryot. This shows their morality. The object of the Permanent Settlement is that the zemindar will improve his lands. This the zemindar admits. If the ryots get the same rights, it does not appear why they should not improve their lands too. The zemindar says that the ignorance and the indebtedness of the ryot will soon force him to transfer his rights to the money-lender, and the *bonâ fide* ryot will derive no benefit from the grant of such rights. The writer does not want the creation of middle men. Therefore he suggests that provision be made in the law for prohibiting their creation. The *bonâ fide* ryot only will be entitled to the occupancy right, and be regarded as *jotedar*. As for the argument of ignorance and indebtedness of the ryot, it was also true of the zemindar at the time of the Permanent Settlement, but still the Permanent Settlement has proved a success; similarly, the Bengal Tenancy Bill also may prove a success. The indebted zemindars lost their possessions, so may the indebted ryots lose their possessions too; but the large body of ryots will benefit by the operations of the Act.

SANJIVANI.

42. The same paper remarks that Anglo-Indians have made up their minds not to go to receive Lord Ripon, nor to attend his *lêvee*, nor join in any of his public

Lord Ripon's reception.

undertakings. The writer asks his countrymen whether they will remain idle at this time. No matter if 40 or 50 European gentlemen do not go to the Howrah station, if hundreds of thousands of Indian subjects stand on both sides of the road from Howrah to the Government Place with flags in hand and sing the praise of Lord Ripon, of truth and of right. There should be, the writer thinks, associations in every part of the country from which addresses, expressive of the deepest feeling of veneration for his Lordship, should be poured on him either through one or more delegates.

HALISAHAR
PRAKASHIKA,
Nov. 10th, 1883.

43. The *Halisahar Prakashikâ*, of the 10th November, remarks that spirituous liquor is doing much evil to the

The outstill system and the Government.

country; but still Government is trying to bring it home to everybody. In its greed, the State has no time to look to the miseries of the people. The charmed formula which Sir Ashley Eden used for the ruin of the country has a great power of fascination.

HALISAHAR
PRAKASHIKA.

44. The same paper observes with satisfaction that the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal has enjoined police officers to cultivate amicable relations with

The police.

the people. No one can deny that this will do great good to the country. But the fact is until the department is weeded of its corrupt members, no reformation will be permanent.

45. The *Sulabh Samáchar*, of the 10th November, remarks that formerly the East Indian Railway Company used to grant third class passes to clerks and chaprasis alike. The writer is glad to learn that henceforth clerks will get passes for the intermediate class. The clerks obtain free passes for their wives, but not for their mothers. But the writer observes that whatever may be the custom in England, mothers are most important members in Hindu families, and requests that the Company be pleased to grant free passes for the mothers too of native clerks.

SULABH SAMACHAR,
Nov. 10th, 1883.

46. The *Dacca Prakásh*, of the 11th November, gives a history of the Madaripur case, and complains that Government has not yet inflicted condign punishment upon Mr. Sharp; nay, on the other hand, has given him undue indulgence. If Government remains indifferent to matters like these, there will soon be an end of all Government.

DACCA PRAKASH,
Nov. 11th, 1883.

47. The same paper advises Government to proceed cautiously and privately in ascertaining the state of the reserve crops in the country. If a great noise is made about the impending famine that will produce a panic, and people will become more cautious than necessary. The writer is of opinion that a considerable quantity of the surplus produce of the last few years is still in store. If all that quantity comes to the market, the scarcity of the present year will not be very severely felt.

DACCA PRAKASH.

48. The same paper apprehends that if the Rent Bill becomes law, the wealthy aristocracy of the land will cease to exist. Those that are in the habit of establishing schools, dispensaries, and other works of public utility, will come to an end. The ryots will grow quarrelsome. The Bill will beggar the landed proprietors.

DACCA PRAKASH.

49. The *Sádháraní*, of the 11th November 1883, regrets to notice that Lord Stanley should have said that the Government is trying to pass the Bengal Tenancy Bill in the darkness of a mist. The great Lords of England alone can give expression to such strong sentiments. The writer does not say that the Bill is perfect, nor does he pretend to foretell that if the Bill becomes law the happiness of the tenantry will be all complete. But this can at least be confidently asserted that no measure of the British Government has received so much the light of publicity, and no Bill has ever been prepared with so much care and after so much deliberation.

SADHARANI.
Nov. 11th, 1883.

50. The *Cháruvartá*, of the 12th November, remarks that when many respectable gentlemen, both in India and in England, are opposed to the Tenancy Bill, it behoves the officers of the Indian Government to put off the passing of the Bill till the opinion of the British public on it is ascertained. There need be no hurry in passing it into law. Many are of opinion that more ventilation of its provisions is necessary. India is not Ireland, nor is there any apprehension that affairs here will come to the same crisis as in Ireland. What is the good of hurry and haste then?

CHARU VARTA,
Nov. 12th, 1883.

51. The *Samaya*, of the 12th November, remarks that there is not a single person amongst its readers that will not be struck dumb when they read the reports of officials on the outstill system. The increase of drunkenness has been attributed to the increased prosperity of the people. The writer is unable

SAMAYA,
Nov. 12th, 1883.

to find any remarkable change for the better in the condition of the people in the last four years. Some say that the more the common people get rid of prejudices, the more addicted to drinking do they become. It is curious that when people had no money they had prejudices, and that as soon as the outstill system was introduced they got money and their prejudices vanished. The outstill system has not increased drunkenness in the towns; it has increased it in the mofussil. The remark that though there is a large sale of liquor, still there is no increase in the number of drunkards, has no meaning.

SAMAYA,
Nov. 12th, 1883.

52. The same paper remarks that the Lieutenant-Governor was very much delighted to hear that the Municipal Commissioners of Dinagepur did not want Self-Government. He said, in reply to the address of the Commissioners, that those that are really worthy of Self-Government do not want to have it, and those that want to have it do not deserve it; so the system should not at all be introduced. The writer says that the old man has lost his head. He ought to retire, or the Government of India should take steps to remove him. The Commissioners of Dinagepur are perhaps afraid that they will have no chance of election in case the elective system be introduced. Therefore it is that they want to retain the system of Government nomination. After playing a farce with the Municipal Commissioners, His Honor proceeded to play another farce with the zemindars. In reply to the address of the latter, His Honor said that they have no right in the land which belongs to Government and to the ryot. The pandits of the locality wanted to pay their respects to His Honor, and remained fasting the whole day, but His Honor did not condescend to see them. His Honor has not much raised himself in the estimation of the people by thus acting discourteously towards the pandits. There is no harm in the mofussil tours of the Lieutenant-Governors; but it is a great hardship to the people that they should be forced to contribute against their will by the local officers for the reception of the Lieutenant-Governors on such occasions.

SAMAYA.

53. The same paper condemns the appointment to the Native Civil Service of Babu Ambica Charan Sen, M.A., the most successful candidate from the Cirencester College.

Babu Ambica Charan Sen, M.A.

SAMAYA.

54. The same paper remarks that the inevitable result of the recommendations of the Education Commission will be that the Berhampur, the Midnapur, and the Chittagong colleges will be abolished in the course of a year, and that the Rajshahye and the Krishnagore colleges will be made over to local bodies, which will eventually lead to their abolition. It cannot be denied that the direction in all educational matters should be placed in the hands of the people themselves, but as they are not yet so enlightened, the writer desires that the Government should proceed with the greatest possible caution in this matter.

The Report of the Education Commission.

SAMAYA.

55. The same paper remarks that it appears to be the intention of the Government of Bengal that Mr. Macpherson, a civilian, should be in charge of the Nasrigunge Model Farm, and that the passed students from Cirencester should act under him. The Bombay Government has placed the gentleman who stood second in order of merit in the agricultural examination in charge of the model farm in that Presidency, but Mr. Thompson wants to put the gentleman who stood first in order of merit under the superintendence of an uneducated European. Such is the difference between Bombay and Bengal. The Governor of Bombay is an experienced Englishman, and the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal is an old imbecile Anglo-Indian. The theory that

The Agricultural Department.

old civilians make excellent Lieutenant-Governors seems to be erroneous. The Lieutenant-Governors of Bengal, North-Western Provinces, and the Punjab should be imported fresh from England.

56. A correspondent of the *Som Prakash*, of the 12th November, draws the attention of the Governor-General, of the Lieutenant-Governor, and of the Managers of

SOM PRAKASH,
Nov. 12th, 1883.

The International Exhibition. the International Exhibition to the desirability of making such arrangements that the male guardians of the females, desirous of seeing the Exhibition, may be allowed to accompany them.

57. The same paper, in its editorial columns, disapproves of the suggestion put forth in the preceding paragraph, and says that some educated female attendants should be employed who would be able to explain to the female visitors the wonders collected together within the Exhibition premises. The writer is opposed to the idea of male guardians accompanying the female visitors, inasmuch as the guardians of one family would be strangers to another, and native females would hesitate to appear before strangers.

SOM PRAKASH.

58. The same paper asks its readers to consider whether any permanent improvement has been achieved in India. Will the vast population be able to protect themselves if the English leave India? Certainly not. If so, where is the improvement? The system of Indian administration is such that it does not give the natives of India scope for the development of their political talents. Unless the system is totally altered, there is no hope of political improvement. The writer therefore proposes that the Legislative Council of the Governor-General of India be constituted after the model of the British Parliament. Let there be representatives of all classes and creeds of the Indian population in that Council; let them discuss all political questions of importance; let them have control over all governmental measures, and specially over the finances of the country. India will then make great political progress. This will gradually lead to the abolition of the Provincial Legislative Councils, and to the reduction of public expenditure, and will mitigate the arbitrariness of the administration.

SOM PRAKASH.

59. The same paper remarks that the officers of Government plainly admit that the number of people who drink has increased, but none say that the number of drunkards has increased. In cold countries wine is a necessity, but in India it is purely a luxury. The Lieutenant-Governor is not disposed to find fault with the outstill system. He says people are prosperous and therefore drink more. The prosperity of the country may partially account for the increase in the number of the frequenters to grog-shops, but it cannot be denied that the outstill system has brought liquor within the reach of a very large number of those that live upon their daily wages. It has produced only one good effect—the increase in the revenue of the State; but it is ruining the health and morals of the people.

SOM PRAKASH.

60. The same paper remarks that though it criticises rather severely the reprehensible acts of Government, it is quite disposed to praise Government when praise is really due to it. Mr. Thompson has, since his accession to office, done nothing to improve the country. People had high expectations of him. Every one was glad that they had obtained a virtuous Governor, and every one was disappointed. None ever dreamt that so virtuous a man as Mr. Thompson should oppose the Ilbert Bill. But he has earned the thanks of the people by some of his measures. He knows thoroughly the state of the agriculturists in Bengal, and is anxious

SOM PRAKASH.

to improve their condition. He is engaged with his head and heart to make them happy, and has recently sent up a proposal to the Government of India for the establishment of an agricultural department in Bengal. The writer is of opinion that if such a department were established, it should be placed in the hands of an able Director with a native assistant. The *Indian Nation* has pointed out Babu Trailokyanath Mukerji as the man best fitted for the work of such an assistant. The writer is prepared to unhesitatingly approve the *Nation's* nomination. Without such an experienced officer the department will not be able to attain the objects for which it is proposed to be established. No other officer will be able to do so much.

SOM PRAKASH,
Nov. 12th, 1883.

61. With reference to the remark in the Resolution of the Government of Bengal on the Report of the Presidency Division, that the *Som Prakásh* still maintains its hostile attitude towards Government officers, the same paper observes that the *Som Prakásh* writes against officers only with a view to reform. It never gives currency to imputations that are unjust or untrue. The writer says that this journal will never hesitate to criticise the unjust acts of public officers. He is of opinion that it is no crime to write against any body, provided that the remarks made do not constitute unjust and false slander. If the *Som Prakash* speaks the truth, it is not at all to blame. Government should have considered well before passing the aforesaid opinion.

The *Somprakas* and Government officers.

SOM PRAKASH.

62. The same paper contains a piece of poetry, in which it conveys to the millions of India the glad tidings of the cheapness of liquor under British rule. It thanks Government for establishing so many distilleries all over the country, and supplying the people abundantly with liquor. Government is so anxious to benefit even the lowest, that it has introduced the system of outstills. Even the labourers are in an ecstasy of joy. One cannot with the help of a single mouth describe the various ways in which the officials are graciously endeavouring to make the people happy

The outstill system.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
Nov. 12th, 1883.

A petition.

63. We give below a translation of an article in the *Ananda Bazar Patriká*, of the

12th November.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA.

We have received the petition given below. We do not know whether it is genuine, or somebody has composed it for the sake of amusement. But the official in the Bengal Secretariat who occasionally favours us with official papers is the person who has furnished us with it. We publish the petition just as we have received it. Readers will judge from a perusal of it whether it is genuine or otherwise.

Petition—

Of Mr. James Stevens, resident of No. , Chowringhee—Sheweth:—That when the Bengal Government published the rules relating to the selection of men for appointment as Deputy Magistrates and others, it was stated in the Resolution recorded at the time that though it was now ruled that Government would henceforth appoint men to such posts after examination, still Government would be at liberty, if it pleased, to appoint men even without subjecting them to any examination. My prayer is that in exercise of the powers reserved in its own hands by Government regarding the appointment of Deputy Magistrates and others, orders be passed for conferring upon me a Deputy Magistrateship or a similar post. The following paragraphs have reference to my qualifications:—

(1) I am a subscriber to the *Englishman*; nay, not only a subscriber, but an admirer of that paper. Through my exertions the *Englishman* has

obtained a considerable increase in the number of its subscribers. I submit herewith copy of a letter addressed to me in this connection by the Editor of the *Englishman*, conveying his thanks to me.

(2) I am a chief promoter of the Anglo-Indian Defence Fund. I have raised considerable sums in aid of the Fund, and this money have I raised not only by knocking about in Calcutta, but have, for this purpose, travelled through different places in the mofussil. Pleased with my labours, the authorities of the Defence Fund have written a letter conveying their thanks to me. Copy of this letter I submit herewith.

(3) I had some money, but I have become somewhat involved in liabilities on account of the Defence Fund. I have made over the greater portion of my property and cash to this Fund. What more, for this purpose, I have disposed of even my carriage and horse? You know that the Defence Fund was established for the auspicious object of discrediting Lord Ripon, harassing natives, and preventing the passing into law of the Ilbert Bill. The fact that I have parted with almost everything I had for the attainment of this auspicious object will convince you that I was not born of any very disrespectable parents. Having parted with my wealth and property for the benefit of this noble undertaking, I have now become somewhat involved in debt. Had it not been for this indebtedness, I would never have stood a candidate for a Deputy Magistrateship, or any similar appointment to which natives are entitled.

(4) I am at present a private in the Volunteer Corps. When the Calcutta Volunteers showed you loyalty and respect, I was then in a manner their leader and managed all things. Again, it was owing to my exertions and proposal that the Volunteers resolved that on the occasion of Lord Ripon's return to Calcutta in December they would not turn out to show their loyalty or respect to His Excellency.

(5) It is now talked about among the Members of the Defence Fund that when, after his return to Calcutta, Lord Ripon will invite the leading European residents of Calcutta and their ladies to Government House, their visits to Government House must be prohibited by all means. This proposal also emanated from me, and I have proposed that for the purpose of insulting Lord Ripon, and putting him to shame on that occasion, the day there are invitations issued to Government House there should be a party given in Calcutta under the auspices of the Defence Fund. I submit herewith copy of the correspondence that has passed between me and the authorities of the Defence Fund on this subject.

(6) I was present at the meeting in connection with the Ilbert Bill called by the tea-planters of Silchar and Darjeeling. I rendered signal assistance to the establishment by the indigo-planters of Behar of an association for this purpose. At these meetings, when the different speakers in the course of their address abused Lord Ripon and his Government, I was greatly delighted, and gave loud and sky-rending cheers. I submit herewith copy of letters which on this occasion I wrote to the speakers. A perusal of these will enable you to perceive how liberal my heart is.

(7) A comparatively large meeting of the Members of the Defence Fund is proposed to be called next month. At this meeting I shall propose the abolition of the present British Government in India, and in lieu of it, the establishment of a republican form of government. I have resolved that on this occasion I shall propose the establishment of a republican form of government in this country, and the appointment of Mr. Rivers Thompson as our president. I have influence in the Defence Committee, and can, in a manner, venture to say that if I make the foregoing proposal everybody will certainly appoint you president. I have written a long article on the scheme that I have drawn up in this connection. I also submit herewith copy of this article.

(8) I am a well-known and sincere Christian. I have learnt by heart the ten commandments of the Lord Jesus Christ. I am ready to undergo any examination in this matter which may be deemed necessary. I duly worship the Lord Jesus Christ every Sunday, and daily perform regular worship. I have read the Bible a hundred times over. In proof of the fact that I am a genuine and sincere Christian, I beg to state that I hate natives with all my heart.

(9) If I am favoured with a Deputy Magistrateship, I promise that—

(a) I shall not issue a summons against a European even if I have doubts that he has committed some offence more serious than that which a Bengali suspected that Mr. Davis had committed, and accordingly issued a summons against him. Nay, I shall not do so even if Europeans really commit such or still more serious offences.

(b) Not only shall I do this, but shall also take every opportunity of issuing summonses against natives. In cases in which the appearance of defendants in courts may, according to rule, be secured by the service of either a summons or a warrant, I shall, if the defendant should happen to be a native, issue a warrant.

(c) I further promise that neither you nor officers subordinate to you will ever find anything written against me in the *Englishman*. If ever they come across anything concerning myself in the *Englishman*, it will be praise that they will come across.

(d) If any one should ever have any case with the police, I shall make the police win the case. Even if the police should illegally take away the life of any person, then I shall commend the police just as you have commended the District Superintendent of Police, Mr. Rattray.

(e) I shall discharge the duties of manager of the estates of wards under my charge in the same manner in which Mr. Manson of Chittagong has done the work of the Court of Wards in that district.

(f) If the Ilbert Bill should unfortunately pass, and Mr. Hudson of Behar should find it necessary to insult the officer appointed under the Bill, I then promise that I shall on that occasion render help to Mr. Hudson.

(10) If Government should generously confer upon me the post of Deputy Magistrate, I pray that an able and educated Deputy Magistrate be appointed under me, because I do not possess good education, or have experience of work. The reason why I do not possess education is that my father and grandfather were never educated, and yet they held high posts. If some able Deputy Magistrate works under me, and I get the pay, the arrangement will be very convenient to me. The rule has long prevailed in this country of Government making such convenient arrangements on our behalf.

Post Scriptum.—The Britannicus who writes letters to the *Englishman* is my mother's brother's daughter's cousin's wife's brother's paternal uncle's father-in-law's wife's brother's son.

64. The same paper points out that the present rule under which

Medical certificates.

Government Surgeons alone can grant medical certificates to employés in Government

offices operates injuriously in the cases of those who are too poor to afford to be treated by Government Surgeons. The rule also constitutes a slight upon the passed students of the Medical College and schools who are in

independent practice, inasmuch as certificates granted by them are regarded as worthless.

65. The same paper observes, in reference to the circular issued to Divisional Commissioners by Government, calling for information as to the prospects of the crops, that after all this information will be supplied by the chowkidars. This is the way in which all enquiries are prosecuted by Government, which cannot therefore come to know the true state of the country. The reason why all true information is kept back is that the people distrust the motives of Government. It cannot be otherwise under a despotism. Government, will continue to suffer this disadvantage, until the people are given a share in the work of the administration. The enquiry that will be made by Government as to the existence of stores of grain in the country will most probably give rise to the rumour that Government intends to impose a tax upon paddy. This will lead many to suppress the facts. Most likely the punchayat or the chowkidar who may be entrusted with the enquiry will give currency to the rumour, and use it as a means of extorting money. The reports submitted by the chowkidars are again likely to be modified by the superior magisterial and police officers. Government will depend upon these misleading reports, and dispose of the question of famine relief. There will be consequently the danger of either doing too little or too much in the shape of relief operations. The Editor therefore asks Government to consult the people as to the state of the crops, and create facilities for carrying on the internal trade of the country. The Khoolna railway should be opened at once. Khoolna is a great rice mart.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
Nov. 12th, 1883.

66. The same paper remarks that Sir George Campbell fondly called the Police his "watch-dog." Sir Richard Temple regarded the Police as high-handed, and checked it; Sir Ashley Eden loved it; Mr. Thompson has an idea that the Police is very weak, and he therefore supports it. He supported Mr. Rattray of Pubna notoriety, and was indifferent to the oppression committed by the Calcutta Police upon certain respectable females. In the case of the school-boys, which occurred at the time of Babu Surendra Nath Banerjee's case, and in the recent whipping case at Dacca, the Magistrate supported the high-handed action of the Police. What will the people do if Government thus takes the side of the Police when it commits oppression; if school-boys are flogged and imprisoned for using insulting language to the Police; and if a Native Magistrate is punished by Government for having, from a sense of duty, issued a summons against a European?

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA.

67. The same paper remarks in another article that the Police needlessly oppress people. Even the present Lieutenant-Governor has admitted this in his last resolution on the Police Report. If on the contrary the Police is weak, and the people high-handed, the evil will not, it is to be feared, be remedied by punishing the high-handed. A family is weak whose head is weak. So long as Mr. Thompson remains Lieutenant-Governor will the Police remain weak.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA.

68. The same paper expresses the opinion that it will not be wise to hold any demonstration for the purpose of according a reception to Lord Ripon when His Excellency returns to Calcutta. This may cause him embarrassment, and displease the local authorities.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA.

69. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 13th November, says that the ruler of Bengal attributes the increase of drunkenness to the abundance of crops during

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Nov. 13th, 1883.

The outstill system.

the past few years, and to the increased facility of communication, in fact to the increase of prosperity among the people. His Honor has passed through various parts of the country, and everywhere he has received a grand reception, and hence he has conceived the idea that the people are prosperous. The writer is glad to learn that the Lieutenant-Governor intends to appoint a Commission to report on the desirability or otherwise of continuing the outstill system.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
Nov. 11th, 1883.

70. The *Navavibhakar*, of the 12th November, contains the following observations on the recommendations of the Education Commission:—By giving some encouragement to the existing indigenous schools, primary education is to be improved as far as practicable. This is not a new policy. It is the old policy of Sir George Campbell in a detailed form. All are not lucky enough to enjoy sweets at a small cost. If only small sums be placed in the hands of Local Boards for educational purposes, the condition of indigenous education will be what it was before. Without money there can be no improvement. It is very doubtful whether extension of education under legal compulsion can suit even the independent countries of the West. There is fear of oppression. If primary education has superior claims on provincial funds, there will be a great obstacle in the way of high education. This is not at all desirable. A policy which cannot keep everything intact is not a good one. None but primary education has any claims on local funds, and primary education has superior claims even on provincial funds. Is high education then to be swept off?

71. Referring to the scheme of self-government, the same paper remarks as follows:—The introduction of the system of self-government into this country is a principal event in the Indian career of Lord Ripon. It is a scheme much cherished by His Lordship at heart; and if it be not crowned with success, he will surely look upon his Indian career as fruitless. It has no doubt given him some satisfaction to find that self-government Bills for the Central Provinces, the North-Western Provinces, and the Punjab have been passed into law; but he is doubtless sorry to see that nothing has yet been done in Bengal, Bombay, and Madras. Our Lieutenant-Governor has peculiar ways of doing things. After troubling Mr. Reynolds and Mr. Macaulay to prepare a draft of the law, he is at last intending to appoint a Commission. We cannot say what the Commission will determine. There will only be one result:—As the Commission is appointed, the time of Lord Ripon's departure from India will draw nearer, and by the time the report of the Commission is out, Lord Ripon will have left us amidst our tears. We cannot say whether we, or our bad luck, or our rulers, who constitute our providence, are to blame for such adverse events. Be that as it may, it is no doubt a matter of very great regret that the system of self-government has been introduced into comparatively backward places, while it has not yet been introduced into this unfortunate province of Bengal, the most advanced province of India.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

72. The same paper remarks that if a Municipal Commissioner of Calcutta is continuously absent from the metropolis for a period of six months, he can be removed, and another Commissioner appointed in his place. Six months have not elapsed since Babu Lal Mohun Ghosh left Calcutta. Yet why has a notice been issued to appoint a new Commissioner in his place? Is the desire of appointing a new Commissioner in place of Babu Lal Mohun so strong in the heart of the Chairman that he could not wait for a few days?

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

Appointment of a Municipal Commissioner in place of Babu Lal Mohun Ghosh.

73. Referring to the incidents of the Lieutenant-Governor's visit to Dinagepore, and his reply to the Municipal Commissioners, who do not want the system of self-government, the same paper observes as follows:—"We cannot say why the residents of Dinagepore were not bodily translated into Heaven on hearing such sweet words of the Lieutenant-Governor. Then came the address of the zemindars, to which the ruler of Bengal replied that zemindars had no right in the land which belonged to the rulers and the ryots. This must have exceedingly gratified the zemindars. Englishmen were honoured, while Bengali zemindars and talukdars were slighted. Sanscrit Pundits came to see their ruler, fasting all day. For such pious deed they had their reward immediately. They could not see their ruler. Has the reader ever seen a ruler who pleases his subjects so much?"

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Nov. 12th, 1883.

74. The same paper remarks that though Lord Ripon has become the eye-sore of the illiberal Anglo-Indians no other Governor-General, since the days of Lord Canning, has won so much the hearts of the Indian people. Low-minded Englishmen and Eurasians say that they will not show him due honours on his return to the metropolis, but the whole native community is prepared to welcome him with a grateful heart.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

75. The same paper thinks that if a considerable number of the provisions of the Bengal Tenancy Bill be not altered and amended, zemindars and ryots will both suffer. Experienced men will also find that the new Bill is likely to do more injury to intermediate tenants than to large zemindars. No general definition of the word "tenure-holder" is given in the Bill, under-tenures are included in tenures, and "tenure" instead of being defined is shewn by illustration to include *durpatni* and *sepatni* interest, *mokurrari* holding, &c. The expression "holder of permanent tenure" is not clearly defined. There is also considerable difference between "holders of tenures" and "ryots" in respect of their rights. A ryot is not bound by a written contract opposed to his interest, but the tenure-holder is bound by such contract. A ryot will not have to pay more than 5-16ths of the price of the produce as rent, and an occupancy ryot more than 20 per cent. of the produce. Under such circumstances, allowing for the costs of cultivation, the occupancy ryots will have more than 50 per cent. as profits, while the profits of the other ryots will be more than 40 per cent. But the nett profits of holders of tenures are never to exceed 30 per cent. There are many gentlemen in the mofussil who have held tenures at the same rate of rent for several generations, having three or four classes of under-tenants under them. The jotedars of Rungpore, the howladars of Backergunge, the ayamadars of Midnapore, and the gantidars of other parts of the country come under this category. Whether they are to be considered tenure-holders or ryots, cannot be determined on reading the Bill. The howladars of Backergunge and the ayamadars of Midnapore are considered to be occupancy ryots under the present law. The term tenure-holders not being clearly defined, will not zemindars try to do injury to the ryots by classing them as tenure-holders? It is not easy to draw a line of distinction between tenure-holders or ryots. But some clear line should be drawn, so as to do on the whole the least possible injury to society. Otherwise greater evils will result. In classing the ryots who have held at the same rate since the permanent settlement as tenure-holders, great injury has been done to them. If they were not classed as tenure-holders, they would be deemed occupancy ryots, and could enjoy profits at the rate of 70, 80, or 90 per cent. But as tenure-holders their profits could not be more than 30 per cent., and the rest would go to the zemindar. Whatever the zemindars

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may say, it is necessary to give occupancy rights to the cultivators of the soil. Without such rights they are not likely to improve the land. Government is therefore desirous of increasing the facilities for the acquisition of the right of occupancy. But it is a matter of regret that the conditions proposed, instead of benefiting the cultivator, will benefit an intermediate class of tenants above him, so that the object for which the occupancy right is being given will be frustrated. The condition of the cultivators will remain what it was, or rather they will have to suffer more at the hands of occupancy ryots than of the zemindars. Owners of large zemindaries have not so many inducements to enhance the rent as the occupancy ryots with small means. There is no limit fixed in the Bill as to the extent of occupancy holdings, so that occupancy ryot may hold, like the jotedars of Rungpore and the howladars of Backergunge, 500, 700, or even 1,000 bighas of land. What the number of under-ryots may be in such holdings throughout Bengal is not exactly known, but it cannot be very small in comparison to the whole body of ryots. The occupancy right is confined in the Bill to the ryots only, so that under-ryots have no chance of obtaining the right. It is a matter of regret that those who till the soil and supply the food of the community will not, in most cases, have the occupancy right, which will be monopolised by an intermediate class of tenants above them. Does not this defeat the principal object of the giving of the occupancy right? Does not this do injury to the numerous class of under-ryots of Bengal? Leaving aside those who have already acquired the occupancy right, will it not be better to rule that those who will not cultivate the land with their own hands, or by means of servants, or will not directly participate in the profit and loss of cultivation, will not be deemed ryots, and consequently will not be able to acquire the occupancy right? As regards those who have the occupancy right, it may be further provided that those who do not cultivate the land themselves and under-let it for a certain period will lose their status as occupancy ryots and become tenure-holders, their under-ryots acquiring the occupancy right; some exceptions may be allowed when an occupancy-holding comes by inheritance to a minor or a woman. On the question of the transferability of the occupancy right, the Editor proposes to give the ryot the power of selling his right, but not of under-letting his holding. In that case none but a cultivator will be able to purchase the occupancy right; there will be no fear of zemindars and mahajans purchasing the right and oppressing the cultivators of the soil.

PRABHATI,
Nov. 14th, 1883.

76. The *Prabhāti*, of the 14th November, asks Government to supply of official publications to native Editors. supply native Editors with copies of weekly reports on native papers and other official publications.

SAMVAD PURNA-
CHANDRODAYA,
Nov. 12th, 1883.

77. The *Samvād Purnachandrodaya*, of the 12th November, observes, in view of the apprehended scarcity that Government should stop the exportation of food-stuff, should open up new roads, and excavate canals.

PURBOTTAM PATRIKA,
Nov. 5th, 1883.

78. The *Pursottam Patriká*, of the 5th November 1883, writes the following:—We are very sorry to inform our readers that our present Magistrate, Mr. K. G. Gupta, is going away as Joint-Magistrate of Cuttack, and that Mr. Currie is coming in his place. Surely this is a matter of regret. Mr. Gupta is an intelligent, experienced, and righteous officer. The inhabitants of Pooree passed their days in great joy under his administration. They had expected great many things from him, but the decree of fate ruled otherwise. How long can good Magistrates, like Mr. Gupta, remain in Pooree? Can native civilians obtain independent charge of a district in these days when the

Local Self-Government and the Ilbert Bills are made the subjects of fearful agitation ?

79. The *Sambád Báhiká*, of the 1st November, expresses apprehensions of famine, and, after advising all responsible officers of Government to study carefully

SAMBAD BAHIKA,
Nov. 1st, 1883.

Apprehensions of famine.

the columns of local newspapers, goes on to say :—

In this district, as also in the two neighbouring tributary mehals, an eight-anna crop has already been lost. Greater loss is anticipated in low lands. In that case the total loss will come up to ten-annas, which is not a small matter. In the last Orissa famine the loss of crop was about 12 or 13 annas. Consequently many lives were lost, though large quantities of rice were imported from foreign places. This year there is three-anna more crop than what was in existence in the last famine year. Besides, people have kept more paddy in store this year than what they did 17 years ago. No doubt these are advantages, in the absence of which great loss of life might happen, still the lowest class of people will suffer, and it is sure that their sufferings will have no limit. Many people turned out homeless and starved in the months of Phalgun and Chaitra (March and April) in the last famine year, whereas in the present year many will leave their homes simply for want of food in the months of Ashárha and Srabana (July and August). There is not a particle of doubt in this assertion. In certain places, specially in the two side drains of public roads, crops from 10-anna to 12-anna will be reaped, but in most places crops from 10-anna to 12-anna have been destroyed. In our opinion it is very wrong to depend upon the good state of the crops noticeable in a very small area.

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Those who will reap 10 or 12-anna crop will enjoy the boon themselves. They will not give even one ganni (equal to five seers in weight) to those that will suffer. Thus people that will lose their crops, and those that purchase every-day necessities in the market, will be very much pinched in the month of Ashárha (July). None knew even in the months of Kartik, Magha and Baisakya (November, February and April) that so much loss of life would happen in the last famine year. No one is now able to think of the dire calamity that awaits the poorest classes. The poor people may somehow or other support themselves by coast canal works as long as the month of Ashárha (July), after which month their distress will know no bounds. Of course the loss of human life may not be as large as it was in the famine year, still we are not prepared to state that no loss of life will occur. May it please God to save the people of Orissa from starvation ; let none be indifferent to the present state of things.

There is another danger impending that is likely to add to the miseries resulting from starvation, namely want of drinking water in tracts not traversed by rivers in the months of Magha and Phalgun (March and April). In many villages tanks and pools of water have been so extensively used for irrigation purposes, that not a single drop will be available for other purposes. If it does not rain before the month of Magha (January), the cattle must no doubt suffer a great deal

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80. The same paper states that crops in Baliapal and Basudebpore thanas, in the Balasore district, are in the worst condition possible.

Crops in the Balasore district.

SAMBAD BAHIKA.

81. The same paper remarks that the District Magistrate of Balasore had been on an inspection tour into the interior of the district, but he did not go

Magistrate of Balasore.

SAMBAD BAHIKA.

much further off from the Grand Trunk Road.

SAMBAD BAHIKA,
Nov. 1st, 1883.

82. The same paper again remarks that the price of rice has increased to a considerable extent in Baripana, the chief station in Mayurbhunj State, and that people in the mofussil are very unwilling to sell rice.

PURUSOTTAM
PATRIKA,
Nov. 5th, 1883.

83. The *Purosottam Patriká*, of the 5th November, makes, however, a favourable report in connection with the state of the crops in Pooree. All anticipations of scarcity were removed by heavy showers of rain that followed on the last new moon.

UTKAL DIPIKA,
Nov. 3rd, 1883.

84. The *Utkal Dipiká*, of the 3rd November, also makes a favourable report regarding the condition of crops in the Cuttack district, but the showers of rain that fell a few days ago were in its opinion not sufficient.

RAJKRISHNA MUKHOPADHYAYA, M.A. & B.L.,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

The 17th November 1883.